## STREET LAW

Episode #1

by

Latoya A. Baker

27 McAlister Drive New Orleans, LA 70118 862-684-1697 Latoya.a.baker@gmail.com

## **TEASER**

FADE IN:

INT. THE KINGDOM - BAR - NIGHT

Patrons dance, crowd the bar, buy lap dances. JESSICA ALVAREZ, 20's, Hispanic, brunette, black cat suit, and heels, walks into view. A man beckons her. Jessica ignores him and makes her way through the crowd to the bar.

The club's bartender, NICK SANTORA, late 20's, Caucasian, serves customers. Nick smiles at Jessica. Jessica slaps her hand down on the bar top.

**JESSICA** 

Bartender, amaretto sour, please.

NICK

Sure, beautiful.

**JESSICA** 

How's everything?

NICK

Same shit, different day.

YVONNE, 20's, African-American, curvy, short dark hair, glides over to the bar and bumps Jessica.

YVONNE

Heads up. Rich is looking for you.

**JESSICA** 

(frowns)

Okay and... for what.

Nick hands Jessica her drink. Jessica turns and surveys the club.

YVONNE

(sighs)

Don't shoot the messenger.

Yvonne storms off. Jessica strolls into the --

VIP ROOM - NIGHT

A bouncer, TINY, African-American, tall, bulky, guards the door. The bouncer looks down at Jessica.

TINY

(nods)

Trouble.

**JESSICA** 

(smiles)

Not tonight, Tiny.

TINY

We'll see.

Across the room, Jessica spots RICH, 20's, African-American, dreads, on a couch with a few strippers.

Two of his boys play pool at a nearby table. Two other men get lap dances from dancers in the far corner.

RICH

Hey, Girl. Come to Daddy.

Jessica stands in the doorway and studies her nails.

**JESSICA** 

I'll pass.

The room goes silent.

RICH

What did you say?

**JESSICA** 

I don't want to play with your little soldier.

Rich crosses the room and grabs her by the throat. Jessica struggles against his hold, gurgles something inaudible.

RTCH

You think because we're in a room full of people I won't fuck you up?

Bouncers rush in, grab Rich, and drag him out of the room.

RICH (CONT'D)

Let go of me, man!

HALLWAY - NIGHT

The club's manager, RILEY, 30's, African-American, low cut, business casual attire steps out of his office into the hall.

RILEY

Do we have a problem?

The bouncers release Rich. Rich adjusts his clothes.

RICH

Nah, man. We cool.

Rich nods toward Jessica in the doorway.

RICH (CONT'D)

I'll see you around, Jessica.

She rubs her throat. Riley walks over, lays a hand on Jessica's shoulder. She jumps.

RILEY

You good?

**JESSICA** 

Yeah.

RILEY

Need a ride home?

JESSICA

No, I'm here until Josie comes.

Riley throws his hands up, then goes back into his office.

EXT. STREET - SIDEWALK - NIGHT

Jessica walks toward the subway station a block away. Dark shadows surround her, she walks faster.

A black two-door coupe races out of the darkness and stops beside her.

EXT. STREET - SIDEWALK - DAY

MS. THOMAS, elderly, African-American, walks her dog. Two girls, SANDY, Hispanic, pigtails, DENISE, African-American, ponytail, play a hand game.

SANDY

Good morning, Ms. Thomas!

DENISE

Hey, Ms. T!

MS. THOMAS

Morning, Hens!

The DOG BARKS at the girls.

MS. THOMAS (CONT'D)

Hush, play nice or no treat.

Ms. Thomas drops the leash. The dog scurries away.

EXT. ALLEY - DAY

Ms. Thomas enters the alley. She picks up the leash.

MS. THOMAS

What are you doing?

Ms. Thomas rounds a dumpster and finds Jessica's lifeless body. A pair of stockings cover Jessica's neck. Ms. Thomas picks up the dog, backs away, and exits.

EXT. STREET - CURB - DAY

Ms. Thomas staggers from the alley.

MS. THOMAS

Help! Someone call nine-one-one.

END OF TEASER

## ACT ONE

INT. VICE BUREAU - KELLY'S & SANCHEZ'S DESKS - DAY

THERESA SANCHEZ, 30's, Hispanic, accent, curvy and conservative, ponytail hurries to her desk and slams her purse and a box of donuts down. DOMINICK KELLY, 30's, African-American, athletic, low cut, looks up from his newspaper.

KELLY

Morning to you too.

SANCHEZ

(frowns)

Don't start.

Kelly raises his hands in surrender.

KELLY

Don't shoot.

She drapes her jacket over the back of her chair. Kelly reaches into the donut box.

KELLY (CONT'D)

Thank you!

Sanchez smacks his hand.

KELLY (CONT'D)

What the ...?

SANCHEZ

Hands off.

CAPTAIN ROLAND ARMSTRONG, 60s, African American, steps out of his office. He walks over to Kelly and Sanchez.

CAPTAIN ARMSTRONG

Detectives, we got a body down on Oak Street. It's yours.

Kelly and Sanchez grab their coats and exit.

EXT. STREET - CURB - DAY

Kelly and Sanchez approach the crime scene and flash their badges. The uniform officer lifts the crime scene tape.

SANCHEZ

Where are we?

UNIFORM OFFICER

Grandma found the body.

The officer points out Ms. Thomas near the curb. A lit cigarette in hand and butts litter her feet.

KELLY

She smokes like an innocent man on death row.

SANCHEZ

Who's on scene?

UNIFORM OFFICER

CSI and the Medical Examiner.

Kelly and Sanchez exit street and enter--

EXT. ALLEY - DAY

The CSI team takes pictures, collects samples, and dusts for prints. PATRICIA CONWELL, 40's, Caucasian, glasses, long red ponytail, white jumpsuit, examines the body.

CONWELL

When did you start Homicide?

KELLY

Nice to see you too, Patti.

SANCHEZ

What happened here?

CONWELL

Someone found a dead body.

Kelly frowns at Conwell. She snaps pictures. She touches Jessica's face.

CONWELL (CONT'D)

She has a bruise around her left eye which suggests blunt item before death.

SANCHEZ

Blunt force trauma.

Conwell picks up Jessica's hands and motions toward her forearms.

CONWELL

She has abrasions across her forearms and a few broken nails.

SANCHEZ

Suggests a struggle.

CONWELL

She has skin under her nails. Hopefully, it belongs to our perpetrator.

She bags Jessica's hands.

KELLY

(kneels)

Cause of death?

CONWELL

The ligature marks on her neck suggests asphyxiation.

SANCHEZ

What about time of death?

Conwell sticks a thermometer into the liver.

CONWELL

Between midnight and three.

Kelly motions toward a skirt that lies next to Jessica's body on the ground.

KELLY

Run a rape kit.

SANCHEZ

Look at the scrapes on her knees, forearms, and the mark on her neck, suggests the victim was on all fours.

Conwell turns on all fours to illustrate the position. She looks up at them.

CONWELL

Detectives, you're staring.

Conwell stands up and brushes herself off.

CONWELL (CONT'D)

I'll know more after the rape kit and autopsy.

UNIFORM OFFICER

I found something.

The uniform officer walks over with a backpack.

UNIFORM OFFICER (CONT'D)

This may belong to the victim.

KELLY

Bag it and tag it.

Kelly turns to Sanchez.

KELLY (CONT'D)

Time to interview the witness.

EXT. STREET - CURB - DAY

Kelly and Sanchez approach Ms. Thomas.

KELLY

Good morning, Ma'am. Mind if we ask you a few questions?

Ms. Thomas takes a pull of her cigarette.

MS. THOMAS

No, Sir.

SANCHEZ

You live around here?

MS. THOMAS

Yes, Ma'am. Two blocks that way.

**KELLY** 

How long?

MS. THOMAS

Forty years.

KELLY

Did you know the victim?

MS. THOMAS

No, she ain't from around here.

SANCHEZ

Are you sure?

MS. THOMAS

Yes, I know all the hens and roosters 'round here.

Ms. Thomas takes another pull, then puts the cigarette out.

Is it possible that you have seen her around?

MS. THOMAS

She looks kind of like the hen that used to hang around Ms. Jeffers' porch with her rooster.

Kelly takes out a note pad and pen.

SANCHEZ

Happen to know her name?

MS. THOMAS

No, ma'am.

KELLY

What's the name of this ROOSTER she hung around?

MS. THOMAS

Richard. Richard Jeffers. Folks 'round here call him Rich.

KELLY

Where?

MS. THOMAS

Lord knows. He ain't 'bout nothing 'cept running the streets.

Kelly hands Ms. Thomas a business card.

KELLY

If you happen to remember anything, please call me.

Ms. Thomas stuffs his business card in her bra.

EXT. JEFFERS RESIDENCE - PORCH - AFTERNOON

Kelly and Sanchez stand on the porch.

SANCHEZ

(sighs)

Do you think this lead is a valid? I'd hate to waste time.

KELLY

There's only one way to find out.

Kelly knocks on the door. A moment later, the door slides open a crack because of a gold chain.

MS. JEFFERS, 40's, African-American, housedress, appears.

MS. JEFFERS

Yes, can I help you?

They flash their badges.

KELLY

Good afternoon, Ma'am.

Ms. Jeffers looks behind herself, then turns back to them.

MS. JEFFERS

(frowns)

Um, what's this about?

SANCHEZ

There was a murder.

MS. JEFFERS

I don't know anything.

KELLY

Didn't ask you anything.

MS. JEFFERS

I don't think I should speak to you anymore. Goodbye, Detectives.

Kelly shows her a picture of Jessica.

KELLY

Ma'am, do you know this woman?

MS. JEFFERS

Oh my God, Jessica.

KELLY

Ms. Jeffers, we're trying to find her killer. Please help us.

MS. JEFFERS

I can't help you.

SANCHEZ

Anything you say is confidential.

MS. JEFFERS

I don't know anything.

How did you know the victim?

MS. JEFFERS

(whispers)

Jessica dated my son, Rich.

KELLY

Where's Rich now?

MS. JEFFERS

Don't know. Haven't seen him in a few days.

KELLY

Thank you. If you see your son, give me a call.

Ms. Jeffers takes the card.

SANCHEZ

(whispers)

She knows more than she's letting on.

KELLY

Look around.

SANCHEZ

What does that mean?

KELLY

Talking to us is a death sentence.

INT. VICE BUREAU - ENTRANCE - AFTERNOON

DEA AGENT COLE MASTERS, 40's, Caucasian, black suit and tie, short haircut, enters.

KELLY & SANCHEZ'S DESKS - AFTERNOON

Sanchez spots Agent Masters, ducks, and rummages through her desk draws.

KELLY

What's that about?

SANCHEZ

What's what about?

KELLY

Playing dumb doesn't suit you.

Sanchez sneaks a glance and Agent Masters notices her. He makes his way across the room. She turns around.

SANCHEZ

Dammit! Please tell me he's not coming this way.

KELLY

Okay.

Agent Masters sports a bright smile as he steps up behind Sanchez's chair.

AGENT MASTERS

Theresa, how nice to see you again?

SANCHEZ

(cringes)

It's Detective Sanchez.

Kelly stands and extends his hand to Agent Masters.

KELLY

Detective Dominick Kelly. I'm Sanchez's new partner.

AGENT MASTERS

(stares at Kelly's hand)

I know.

Agent Masters leans into Sanchez's ear.

AGENT MASTERS (CONT'D)

(whispers)

I look forward to seeing you really soon, my dear.

Agent Masters walks away from the pair. He enters the captain's office.

SANCHEZ

(imitates Desi Arnaz)

You got some 'splaining to do.

Captain Armstrong steps out of his office.

CAPTAIN ARMSTRONG

Kelly, Sanchez, my office NOW.

CAPTAIN ARMSTRONG'S OFFICE - AFTERNOON

Kelly and Sanchez enter.

CAPTAIN ARMSTRONG

Detectives, this is...

AGENT MASTERS

(smiles)

No need for the introductions. I'm familiar with Detective Sanchez.

Agent Masters opens his briefcase and pulls out a folder.

AGENT MASTERS (CONT'D)

Detective Kelly, your record precedes you.

CAPTAIN ARMSTRONG

I'm sure you're wondering why Agent Masters is here.

Agent Masters nods to Captain Armstrong.

CAPTAIN ARMSTRONG (CONT'D)

Agent Masters identified our murder victim this morning.

**KELLY** 

Is that so? Too bad we already have a name. Jessica Alvarez.

SANCHEZ

What kind?

AGENT MASTERS

A witness of the federal kind.

**KELLY** 

(whistles)

That's some protection.

Agent Master pulls a file of surveillance photos and reports out of his briefcase.

SANCHEZ

Witness protection, for what?

AGENT MASTERS

I can't tell you.

KELLY

(smirks)

What can you tell us?

AGENT MASTERS

I've been authorized to put a special task force together.

Sanchez whistles. Kelly and Agent Masters stare at each other. Sanchez looks back and forth between the two.

SANCHEZ

What's the catch?

AGENT MASTERS

Care to fill your partner in?

Kelly speaks without looking at Sanchez.

KELLY

Nothing to fill in. It's no secret that he's my brother.

AGENT MASTERS

Is that so?

Kelly nods, a slight smile crosses his face. Agent Master pulls out a photo and hands it to Sanchez.

SANCHEZ

(frowns)

Wait... you're twins.

She drops the stack of photos on Captain Armstrong's desk to reveal a shot of face that is identical to Kelly. Kelly frowns and Agent Masters smiles. Kelly leans forward.

CAPTAIN ARMSTRONG

Is there a method to your madness? We have a killer to catch.

AGENT MASTERS

I want your department's help taking down Josiah.

CAPTAIN ARMSTRONG

Of all the precincts, why us?

Kelly laughs, sits back and folds his arms across his chest.

CAPTAIN ARMSTRONG (CONT'D)

Care to share, detective?

KELLY

You need me.

AGENT MASTERS

Not at all.

**KELLY** 

Bullshit. What, no inside man?

AGENT MASTERS
Maybe, I do; maybe I don't.

INT. WAREHOUSE - DOCK - DAY

Shelves upon shelves full of boxes decorate the warehouse. Dim lights buzz overhead. DON. ANTHONY DICAPRIO, 50's, salt and pepper hair, a wooden cane in hand, stands in the middle of three HENCHMEN on the dock.

The cargo gate opens and a delivery truck backs in. The driver and his passenger exit the cab and walk around to the trailer. Both men tote shotguns.

The driver unlocks the trailer and opens the door. AJ, early 30's, African-American, low cut, and XAVIER, late 20's, Latino, Spanish accent, short, dark hair, and 2-armed guards step forward.

Don Dicaprio smiles and gestures with open arms.

DON. DICAPRIO

Where's Josiah?

ΑJ

He's busy.

DON. DICAPRIO

Busy, huh? Your boss thinks I'm a peon. Why else would he send you?

ΑJ

As I said, he's busy.

Xavier rubs his finger across the trigger.

XAVIER

Are we going to do business?

DON. DICAPRIO

Back in my day, bosses handled the business. Lieutenants, ran errands.

Don. Dicaprio gestures toward one of his henchmen.

DON. DICAPRIO (CONT'D)

Bring it.

The man nods, disappears through a doorway, returns with a briefcase, and hands it to Don. Dicaprio.

DON. DICAPRIO (CONT'D)

I heard your boss has a new tail.

ΑJ

Your point?

DON. DICAPRIO

What does he plan to do about it?

ΑJ

Something.

DON. DICAPRIO

You got a lot of nerve coming in here with that attitude, kid.

ΑJ

Do you have it... or not?

DON. DICAPRIO

Of course, I'm a man of my word.

ΑJ

(scoffs)

I'll be the judge of that.

AJ opens the briefcase; thumbs through some papers and files, nods to Xavier, who produces an identical briefcase.

DON. DICAPRIO

Pleasure doing business with you.

HENCHMEN 1

Boss, shouldn't you count it?

DON. DICAPRIO

Nah, Josiah lives by the code... unlike this smuck.

ΑJ

(smiles)

Thanks for the compliment.

AJ, Xavier, and the armed guards leave in an all black SUV in the bay next to the delivery truck. The truck driver and his passenger lock up the trailer, get into the cab, exit.

INT. SUV - DAY

AJ stares out the window at the scenery. He pulls out his cell and checks the time.

ΑJ

Shit!

He dials the phone.

INT. JOSIAH'S OFFICE - SAME TIME

Josiah punches numbers into a calculator as he shuffles through a stack of papers. He peers over at the wall clock then checks his watch.

His CELL PHONE begins to RING. He answers.

JOSIAH

You're late. Did he come correct?

INTERCUT telephone conversation.

ΑJ

Yeah, it's all here.

JOSIAH

Put a price on it.

ΑJ

Are you sure?

JOSIAH

Did I stutter?

ΑJ

Consider it done. What about the other issue?

AJ hangs up, locks eyes with Xavier through the rearview.

AJ (CONT'D)

(nods)

First chance, merk him.

Xavier's lips curve into an evil grin.

END OF ACT 1

ACT TWO

INT. SANCHEZ'S CAR - DAY

Sanchez grips the wheel. She glances over at her baby sister, BIANCA, 16, Hispanic, as she rants.

BIANCA

(groans)

Yo, I'm sixteen. I'm old enough to make my own decision.

SANCHEZ

(exhales)

Sixteen means you're still a minor.

BIANCA

You're not my mother.

SANCHEZ

You're right. I'm not your mother. No need to remind me that OUR mother is dead.

Sanchez blows the car horn.

SANCHEZ (CONT'D)

I know living with me isn't easy.

BIANCA

That's an understatement.

Sanchez mutters a curse in Spanish, grips the wheel tighter, looks at Bianca.

SANCHEZ

Enough! Show me you're responsible and I'll gladly sign the damn emancipation papers.

She pulls up to the curb of Bianca's high school.

SANCHEZ (CONT'D)

Start by going to school and attending classes all day.

Bianca opens the car door, steps out, turns back to Sanchez.

BIANCA

Anything else?

SANCHEZ

Yeah, don't slam my door.

Bianca slams the car DOOR, then storms off toward the building. Sanchez pulls out her cell and dials.

INT. KELLY'S APARTMENT - KITCHEN - SAME TIME

Kelly stands at his kitchen counter, shuffles forks and spoons, plates, and cups around on a breakfast tray.

KELLY

Sabrina makes this shit look easy.

He removes everything, then places everything back.

KELLY (CONT'D)

Okay, pancakes, bacon, cheese eggs, biscuits, orange juice. Perfect.

He picks up the tray, carries it toward his room. His CELL PHONE RINGS. He sets the tray down and answers.

KELLY (CONT'D)

(gingerly)

Kelly.

INTERCUT telephone conversation.

SANCHEZ

Well, well, well, don't you sound chipper. How's my wife?

KELLY

(chuckles)

Wife? Funny.

SANCHEZ

Am I interrupting something?

KELLY

Not yet, I made breakfast.

SANCHEZ

Breakfast in bed. Too bad I'm not a switch hitter.

KELLY

(laughs)

So, how did things go with Bianca?

SANCHEZ

(sighs)

Bad.

The emancipation thing again?

SANCHEZ

Yep.

Sanchez sighs hard, blows her horn at a driver.

SANCHEZ (CONT'D)

Nice driving, Idiot!

**KELLY** 

Where are you?

SANCHEZ

In traffic.

**KELLY** 

Any leads on Alvarez?

SANCHEZ

Oh yeah, we got an address for the sister. It seems our vic had a domestic a while back.

KELLY

What time are we rolling out?

SANCHEZ

As soon as you make roll call.

Kelly checks his watch.

KELLY

I'm hitting the road in five. I'll see you in a few.

SANCHEZ

Kelly, I got a question for you.

KELLY

Shoot.

SANCHEZ

Is she naked?

He chuckles, hangs up the phone, then carries the tray, and exits into--

BEDROOM - DAY

SABRINA HARPER, 28, petite, curvy, long black hair, props herself up on one arm when she hears the DOOR open.

SABRINA

(yawns)

You should do something about that.

KELLY

Leave it alone.

She notices the tray in Kelly's hands when he turns around.

SABRINA

Wow, is that for me?

KELLY

Yes, sit up.

He places the tray over her lap, then hands her a napkin. She places it over her stomach, then puts jelly on a biscuit.

SABRINA

(swallows)

These biscuits are awesome.

**KELLY** 

(smiles)

You're welcome.

SABRINA

Do you want some?

KELLY

Nah, I'm good.

SABRINA

Are you sure?

She waves a fork full of cheese eggs through the air.

SABRINA (CONT'D)

I'm not going to eat all of this.

Kelly waves off the gesture.

**KELLY** 

Yeah, I'm sure.

He gives her a kiss, goes into his closet, grabs his gun holster, and puts it on.

KELLY (CONT'D)

See you later.

INT. APARTMENT BUILDING - HALLWAY - AFTERNOON

Kelly and Sanchez enter. Kelly knocks on door "306".

KELLY

Alma Alvarez?

Unsupervised children run through the hall.

KELLY (CONT'D)

We need to speak with you.

CHAINS move and LOCKS shift, the door opens. ALMA ALVAREZ, late 20's, appears behind the door.

ALMA

(disgruntle)

What!?

SANCHEZ

Alma Alvarez?

AT<sub>I</sub>MA

Who wants to know?

They flash their badges.

ALMA (CONT'D)

Jessica isn't here.

KELLY

May we come in? It's a personal matter regarding your sister.

Alma looks around the empty hallway, closes the door enough to slide the locks off then opens it wide. Kelly and Sanchez exit hallway and enter--

INT. ALVAREZ RESIDENCE - LIVING ROOM - AFTERNOON

Alma marches past them into the living room. Alma turns, places her hand on her hip in a defiant stance.

ALMA

Look, my sister isn't home.

KELLY

Sit down.

ALMA

For what?

Jessica's dead.

ALMA

Wait, what? What did you say?! Jessica... dead!

Alma staggers to the couch.

SANCHEZ

I'm sorry but we need to ask you some questions.

Sanchez hands her some tissue. Kelly touches Sanchez's arm and makes a slow down motion. Sanchez pulls her arm away.

ALMA

What?

SANCHEZ

When was the last time you saw her?

AT<sub>I</sub>MA

Yesterday, before she went to work.

KELLY

Where does she work at?

ALMA

The Kingdom.

SANCHEZ

KELLY

The Kingdom?

(sighs)

Damn.

Sanchez gives Kelly a strange look.

SANCHEZ

You know the place.

KELLY

Boy, do I.

INT. THE KINGDOM - BAR - NIGHT

Kelly and Sanchez stand next to the bar. A very attractive topless dancer walks by. Sanchez stares the woman down.

SANCHEZ

(blushes)

Oh my.

Keep it in your pants tiger.

SANCHEZ

(whistles)

Somebody pinch me.

Nick serves drinks to customers.

NICK

(sighs)

Good evening, Officers. How can I help you?

KELLY

(smiles)

Do I really look like 5-0?

NICK

Please... YOUR girl?

He laughs and motions towards Sanchez.

NICK (CONT'D)

She has cop written all over her and by the looks of it, this is her first time in a strip club too.

SANCHEZ

Excuse me?

Nick looks at Kelly.

NICK

Is she serious?

He looks at Sanchez.

NICK (CONT'D)

I saw the way you looked at the waitress.

Nick leans against the bar, polishes glasses with a white dishcloth, looks at Kelly.

**KELLY** 

Fair enough. I'm Detective Kelly. My partner, Detective Sanchez.

NICK

Again, how can I help you?

Kelly pulls a picture of Jessica out of his pocket and presents it to Nick.

Do you know this woman?

Nick puts the dishcloth and dry glass down. Looks at the photo then shrugs.

NICK

I can't say that I do. In a joint like this, I see lots of women... Their backsides anyway.

Kelly grabs Nick and shakes the picture in his face.

KELLY

You ever seen her backside?!

NICK

(frantic)

Yes, her name is Jessica. She was here last night.

SANCHEZ

Did you see her leave with anyone?

NICK

No, let me go. Ok?

Kelly shoves Nick away from him.

SANCHEZ

Did anyone else see her leave?

NICK

The whole bar saw her leave. Jessica was a favorite.

KELLY

Come on, Nick. You have the best seat in the house.

NICK

Girl in the pink bikini.

Kelly and Sanchez spot Yvonne.

NICK (CONT'D)

Her name is Yvonne. She and Jessica were thick as thieves.

A topless waitress walks over with a tray of empty glasses.

NICK (CONT'D)

Anything else?

Kelly places a fifty dollar bill with one of his business cards on the bar. They exit and enter--

BOOTH - A MOMENT LATER

Kelly signals Yvonne over.

KELLY

Take my girl for a ride.

SANCHEZ

(blushes)

No, thanks.

KELLY

It's on me.

Yvonne steps up to Sanchez.

YVONNE

Relax, I don't bite unless you want me too.

Yvonne straddles Sanchez's lap.

YVONNE (CONT'D)

Business or pleasure?

She pulls Sanchez's ponytail loose.

SANCHEZ

Business.

KELLY

Pleasure.

YVONNE

Interesting.

KELLY

Heard the news?

YVONNE

Talk of the whole neighborhood.

Yvonne runs her fingers throw Sanchez's hair.

SANCHEZ

(moans)

Anyone want to harm her?

YVONNE

She had a scene with her ex in VIP last night.

SANCHEZ

Does this ex have a name?

Riley steps out of his office with Xavier in tow. Riley and Xavier spot Yvonne, Kelly, and Sanchez in the booth.

Xavier leans in, whispers something to Riley, then exits. Riley approaches the booth.

RILEY

(disdain)

DK, what brings you here?

Kelly gives Riley a one arm embrace.

YVONNE

(whispers to Sanchez)

Meet me outside in 20 minutes.

Yvonne rises, nods to Riley, and exits. Riley takes a seat.

KELLY

(motions towards Yvonne)

Business with a side of pleasure.

RILEY

(motions towards Sanchez)

I see.

KELLY

When was the last time you saw her?

Kelly slides the picture of Jessica across the table.

RILEY

(smirks)

I never seen her. Who is she?

SANCHEZ

You tell us. She left her only to be dumped her in an alley like a piece of trash.

KELLY

We know she was here.

Riley rubs his face, then looks around.

RILEY

Follow me.

They leave the booth and enter--

RILEY'S OFFICE

Riley takes a seat behind his desk.

KELLY

Hit me with it.

RILEY

Loose lips sink ships.

KELLY

How's your liquor license lately?

RILEY

Oh, you gone do me like that? She had a run in with her man.

KELLY

Catch it on film?

RILEY

Nah, system was down.

SANCHEZ

Do you have a name?

RILEY

Yeah, this joker named Rich.

KELLY

Location?

RILEY

Nah, but I heard he's a hot commodity right now.

KELLY

Hot commodity?

RILEY

Yes, Sir. Your doppelganger is looking for him too.

KELLY

Oh really?

RILEY

Richie boy is state evidence. You didn't hear that from me. Know what I mean?

They knock fists.

KELLY

No doubt. 'Preciate it.

RILEY

One hand washes the other. On another note, is she single?

SANCHEZ

(scoffs)

In your dreams.

KELLY

If you...

Riley waves him off.

RILEY

Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Kelly and Sanchez exit.

EXT. THE KINGDOM - ALLEY - NIGHT

Yvonne steps out of the shadows from a nearby alley.

YVONNE

Detectives.

Sanchez looks around, then walks toward her. Kelly follows.

SANCHEZ

What happened back there?

YVONNE

If Riley finds out, I talked...

KELLY

No one will know.

SANCHEZ

Jessica leave with anyone?

YVONNE

No, she left alone as usual.

KELLY

Where was her boyfriend?

YVONNE

(frowns)

Riley tossed him out about an hour before closing.

KELLY

Any problems with a jealous ex or a overzealous customer?

YVONNE

No. Everyone loved her.

SANCHEZ

Did you see the fight between her and AJ?

YVONNE

No, I was working the stage.

A drunk man stumbles past the alley. Kelly touches the wall in order to block Yvonne from the passerby's view.

KELLY

If you hear anything, call me.

Yvonne takes his card, slides it into her bra, exits.

EXT. THE KINGDOM - PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Kelly and Sanchez head for their squad car.

SANCHEZ

So, one hand washes the other?

**KELLY** 

It's the rule we were raised by.

SANCHEZ

Was I that obvious?

KELLY

(laughs)

Hell yeah.

She slaps his arm.

KELLY (CONT'D)

I wish I had a camera to take a picture of your face... Priceless.

SANCHEZ

That's not funny.

I thought that you would've been to a strip club.

SANCHEZ

Why because we like the same thing?

KELLY

(nods)

Pretty much.

Kelly and Sanchez spot a figure dressed in all black near their squad car.

KELLY (CONT'D)

I got a bad feeling about this.

SANCHEZ

Excuse me, can I help you?

The hooded figure smashes the window in and runs off.

SANCHEZ (CONT'D)

Hey! Stop police!

EXT. STREET - MIDDLE - NIGHT

Kelly and Sanchez chase him down the street. High beams come on behind them. A black SUV speeds toward them, the windows roll down. A borage of GUNSHOTS ring out.

Kelly pushes Sanchez out of the way. They crawl behind a nearby car and return fire. He hits one of the back tires and shoots out the back window but the truck doesn't stop.

KELLY

Shit! Sanchez, are you okay?

SANCHEZ

Who was that?

**KELLY** 

Josiah's hello.

SANCHEZ

If that's hello, I don't want to know what goodbye is.

END OF ACT TWO

## ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. MEDICAL EXAMINER'S BUILDING - MORGUE - MORNING

The medical examiner's lab has three stainless steel surgical tables in the middle of the room.

Kelly and Sanchez enter as Conwell covers the body of an elderly man, and then checks the toe tag of another body.

CONWELL

Good afternoon, Detectives. I heard about the shoot out. Any suspects?

**KELLY** 

Take your pick.

Conwell uncovers Jessica's body.

SANCHEZ.

Are the lab results for our victim in yet?

Conwell picks up a manila folder from a table.

CONWELL

Yes.

KELLY

(frowns)

What did you find out?

CONWELL

According to the toxicology report, no drugs present in her system.

**KELLY** 

Rape Kit?

CONWELL

She had sex before her death but no signs of forced entry.

SANCHEZ

So, you have nothing to tell us.

CONWELL

I didn't say that. I gave you a preliminary at the scene.

SANCHEZ

(impatient)

What are you saying?

Conwell covers Jessica's body.

CONWELL

Based on the defensive wounds and the fact that she's clean, I followed a hunch.

KELLY

What kind of hunch?

CONWELL

I did a pregnancy test.

KELLY

A pregnancy test?

CONWELL

Jessica Sanchez was pregnant. Eight weeks to be exact.

Conwell tosses the file on the table.

CONWELL (CONT'D)

Explains why she put up such a fight with our perp.

Conwell sits down on a nearby stool.

CONWELL (CONT'D)

There was one more thing.

Conwell picks up the file, flips through it.

CONWELL (CONT'D)

We ran the skin we found under her nails through Codex.

KELLY

Any matches?

CONWELL

Yes, for Richard Jeffers.

SANCHEZ

The victim's boyfriend?

KELLY

One and the same.

SANCHEZ

What is he doing in Codex?

CONWELL

Rape charge.

KELLY

Thanks for the report, Patti.

CONWELL

Not a problem.

INT. THOMAS RESIDENCE - LIVING ROOM - AFTERNOON

Ms. Thomas peaks through her window blinds, pulls out Kelly's business card, and picks up her house phone.

INT. VICE BUREAU - KELLY'S DESK - SAME TIME

KELLY reads at his desk, then answers his DESK PHONE.

INTERCUT telephone conversation.

KELLY

Detective Kelly.

MS. THOMAS

Good afternoon, this is Ms. Thomas.

KELLY

Yes, Ms. Thomas. How are you doing?

Kelly grabs a pen from across his desk.

MS. THOMAS

I'm doing fine. I found that rooster you were looking.

KELLY

(frowns)

Rooster?

MS. THOMAS

Yes, Ms. Jeffers's rooster.

KELLY

Where?

MS. THOMAS

He's been strutting back and forth in front of my house all morning.

Kelly flips through the pages of his pad until he reaches Ms. Thomas's address. He underlines it.

KELLY

Thanks for the tip.

MS. THOMAS

My pleasure.

Kelly slams the phone down and picks up his jacket. Sanchez looks up from her computer screen.

SANCHEZ

Where are you going?

KELLY

To see a lady about a rooster.

SANCHEZ

A what?

KELLY

Rich is mobile.

Sanchez rises, grabs her jacket and follows him.

EXT. STREET - AFTERNOON

Kelly and Sanchez's unmarked squad car pulls up to the curb. Rich stands up to greet them.

RICH

Detectives, I heard you've been looking for me.

KELLY

You've been a hard man to find.

RICH

(shrugs)

I'm a busy man.

KELLY

Come answer some questions for us?

RICH

Why would I do that?

SANCHEZ

We asked nicely.

RICH

Nah, if someone sees me taking a ride with you...

KELLY

Come voluntarily or involuntarily it's all up to you.

RICH

Is that a threat?

Kelly punches Rich in the stomach, pulls out a pair of handcuffs, turns him around and cuffs him.

KELLY

You should know by now that I don't make idle threats.

SANCHEZ

(exhales)

Was that really necessary?

Rich begins to resist.

KELLY

It got the job done.

RICH

(heaves)

What the fuck!

Kelly shoves Rich into the back of the unmarked squad car.

INT. VICE BUREAU - INTERROGATION ROOM - AFTERNOON

Rich sits in the interrogation room. Kelly and Sanchez enter.

RICH

I don't have nothing to say to you.

KELLY

Hmm, you had a lot to say earlier.

RTCH

Man, fuck you!

Rich jumps around in the chair.

RICH (CONT'D)

Take these fucking cuffs off and let's shoot the one.

Kelly stretches his arms wide.

KELLY

Nothing but air and opportunity.

RICH

Punk ass cop.

SANCHEZ

Nice language.

RICH

Why did you bring me here?

KELLY

No ears on the street? You're wanted for murder.

RICH

I ain't kill nobody.

SANCHEZ

Hey, that nobody had a name.
Jessica Alvarez. You remember her?

Rich struggles against his restraints.

RICH

I didn't kill Jessica.

SANCHEZ

That's not what we heard.

RICH

I don't care what you heard. I didn't kill her.

KELLY

What happened at the Kingdom?

Kelly smacks the table.

KELLY (CONT'D)

You tried to choke her out in VIP.

Kelly sits on top of the table by Rich. He leans in.

KELLY (CONT'D)

You go back to finish the job.

RICH

Man, Jessica liked that kinky shit.

SANCHEZ

Too bad, we can't confirm that.

Rich hocks and spits at Sanchez.

RICH

Confirm my nuts. I want a lawyer.

There's a tap on the one-way mirror. The detectives exit.

INT. VICE BUREAU - OBSERVATION ROOM - NIGHT

Kelly and Sanchez watch Rich through the one-way mirror as he talks with his lawyer.

SANCHEZ.

What do you think?

KELLY

Not sure.

SANCHEZ

Do you think he really did it?

KELLY

If he didn't kill her, then he's the perfect patsy.

Captain Armstrong walks in.

CAPTAIN ARMSTRONG

Detectives.

KELLY

Captain.

SANCHEZ

Captain.

CAPTAIN ARMSTRONG

He's agreed to talk to us. Don't mess up.

INT. VICE BUREAU - INTERROGATION ROOM - NIGHT

Kelly and Sanchez enter and sit across from Rich and his attorney, MR. PRESCOTT, 50's, Caucasian, business suit, pleasant smile. Captain Armstrong stands against the wall.

ATTORNEY PRESCOTT

Detectives, I've instructed my client to answer your questions on good faith.

SANCHEZ

When was the last time you saw Jessica Alvarez alive?

RICH

Last Friday. I went to the club, had a few drinks before Riley tossed me out.

SANCHEZ

Did anyone go with you?

RICH

No, I went home alone.

KELLY

What time did you leave the club?

RICH

Two.

SANCHEZ

What did you and Jessica fight about?

RICH

That wasn't a fight. Jessica got off on kinky stuff.

KELLY

Did you kill Jessica Sanchez?

RICH

I told you before no.

SANCHEZ

Any idea who killed her?

RICH

No. Even if I knew, you know I can't tell you.

KELLY

So, you didn't kill Jessica, you don't know who killed her either, and you wouldn't help if you knew.

SANCHEZ

I think you're lying.

Rich sucks his teeth and slouches in his seat.

RICH

I don't give a damn what you think.

ATTORNEY PRESCOTT

Detectives, my client said he doesn't know. If you continue to badger him, we walk.

SANCHEZ

I think you killed her because she was pregnant.

RICH

Pregnant? Get the fuck out of here. Jessica wasn't pregnant.

Attorney Prescott leans over and whispers something to Rich. Rich's posture eases a bit.

ATTORNEY PRESCOTT

Detectives? What is the point of this? My client obviously didn't know of Miss Alvarez's pregnancy.

KELLY

You didn't knock up Jessica.

RICH

Hell no, I ain't knock Jessica up. I just got out from doing a eighteen month bid in County.

KELLY

Where?

RICH

Essex.

KELLY

Mind giving us a DNA sample to disqualify yourself as a suspect?

Rich leans over and whispers to Attorney Prescott.

ATTORNEY PRESCOTT

My client agrees.

INT. VICE BUREAU - CAPTAIN ARMSTRONG'S OFFICE - AFTERNOON

Captain Armstrong is on the phone when Agent Masters enters with the two unidentified men.

CAPTAIN ARMSTRONG

Lieutenant, I have to call you back. An important matter has walked into my office.

Captain Armstrong hangs up the phone.

CAPTAIN ARMSTRONG (CONT'D) What brings you to my office?

AGENT MASTERS

I'm heard that you have Richard Jeffers in custody.

Captain Armstrong tosses a file across his desk.

CAPTAIN ARMSTRONG

(nonchalant)

I'm sorry there must have been some miscommunication. Mr. Jeffers has been released.

AGENT MASTERS

Released? You let a federal witness slip through your fingers.

CAPTAIN ARMSTRONG

A federal witness? Who is that?

Agent Masters slams his hand down on the desk.

AGENT MASTERS

(exclaims)

Don't play coy with me. You had him in custody and you turned him lose!

CAPTAIN ARMSTRONG

I didn't know that Richard Jeffers was a federal witness.

Captain Armstrong folds his hands in front of him.

CAPTAIN ARMSTRONG (CONT'D)

You and your office haven't be very forthcoming with information.

AGENT MASTERS

Mr. Jeffers's witness classification was on a need to know basis.

CAPTAIN ARMSTRONG

Mr. Jeffers would still be in custody if you had told my office.

AGENT MASTERS

Captain, my hands were tied.

CAPTAIN ARMSTRONG
I've done this dance before and you're the first person to ever withhold information.

AGENT MASTERS Captain, I am under orders.

CAPTAIN ARMSTRONG Under order from whom?

AGENT MASTERS
That's classified information.

CAPTAIN ARMSTRONG Sure it is.

AGENT MASTERS You agreed to help.

CAPTAIN ARMSTRONG
I gave you officers to help with your operation.

AGENT MASTERS We are cooperating and giving you the resources you need.

CAPTAIN ARMSTRONG I don't want to compete in a pissing contest with you.

Captain Armstrong picks up his phone.

CAPTAIN ARMSTRONG (CONT'D) Get in here now.

Kelly and Sanchez enter.

CAPTAIN ARMSTRONG (CONT'D) Your witness isn't the father of the victim's baby.

AGENT MASTERS
I never said he was. Where did you get that information from? What does it matter anyway?

CAPTAIN ARMSTRONG Everything. We released Mr. Jeffers because we didn't have a motive. AGENT MASTERS

I need your department to get out there and find Mr. Jeffers because he is the key to Josiah.

CAPTAIN ARMSTRONG
I'd like to help you but my
officers need to solve a murder.

AGENT MASTERS Captain, now isn't the time to cross hairs.

CAPTAIN ARMSTRONG
Finding your witness isn't my top
priority. Finding the murderer of
Jessica Sanchez is.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

EXT. DINER - NIGHT

Sanchez pulls into the near vacant parking lot. She parks on the far side of the building away from the light posts.

INT. SANCHEZ'S CAR/DRIVER SEAT - NIGHT

Sanchez watches Agent Masters through the windows.

SANCHEZ

(mutters)

What are you doing?

Sanchez exits the car and enters --

INT. DINER - NIGHT

Agent Masters spots Sanchez and waves her over.

CORNER BOOTH - A MOMENT LATER

Sanchez sits across from hi and looks through the menu.

AGENT MASTERS

I didn't think you would show.

SANCHEZ

I haven't ordered yet.

Sanchez surveys around the diner.

SANCHEZ (CONT'D)

What do you want?

AGENT MASTERS

To have a cup of coffee and catch up. No less, maybe a little more.

Agent Masters looks her up and down.

SANCHEZ

Seriously? Does that line still work on anyone?

Sanchez grabs her purse and exits the booth.

SANCHEZ (CONT'D)

I knew this was a mistake.

AGENT MASTERS

Alright, alright. Please sit.

Sanchez hesitates, then eases back into the booth.

SANCHEZ

(sighs)

Why?

AGENT MASTERS

I need a shadow.

SANCHEZ

What's a matter Peter the one you have isn't good enough?

AGENT MASTERS

Nope, because it can't be in two places at once.

A WAITRESS, Caucasian, 30's, dark brown hair, shuffles over with a tray of food in hand. The waitress sets a plate of food down before Sanchez with a glass of orange juice.

SANCHEZ

What's all this?

AGENT MASTERS

Breakfast. If memory serves me, you still like pancakes. Am I right?

WAITRESS

Let me know if you need any thing else, Cole.

The waitress sashays away.

SANCHEZ

Cole?

AGENT MASTERS

(shrugs)

My favorite place to eat when I come to town.

SANCHEZ

(laughs)

Sure it is.

AGENT MASTERS

What's that suppose to mean?

SANCHEZ

I saw the way she looked at you.

AGENT MASTERS

Oh that, that was nothing. I stopped a couple of guys from hassling her one night.

SANCHEZ

How chivalrous of you.

AGENT MASTERS

Yeah, well, I'm sucker for damsels in distress.

EXT. DINER - SUV/DRIVER SEAT - NIGHT

Kelly's gloves grip the steering wheel as he watches Sanchez and Agent Masters eat. Xavier sits forward from the backseat.

XAVIER

(Spanish)

How do you want to handle this?

KELLY

Passive.

Xavier sits back.

INT. THE KINGDOM - NIGHT

From the bar, Nick and Riley watch Yvonne dance on the stage. Nick tends to a few customers when he spots Rich walk in.

Riley walks over to Rich, they exchange welcome gestures, then Riley escorts Rich to the VIP area. Once they're out of sight, Nick picks up the phone.

INT. PATROL CAR - SAME TIME

Kelly heads to the precinct. Kelly's PHONE rings. Kelly fishes the phone out of his pocket and answers.

KETITIY

Detective Kelly.

INTERCUT telephone conversation.

Nick turns away from the bar but watches every thing going on behind him through a mirror.

NICK

This is Nick from Kingdom.

KELLY

Whatcha got for me, Nick?

NICK

Depends on if you're still looking for Jessica's man.

KELLY

Where?

Nick surveys the club through the bar mirror.

NICK

Riley escorted him to VIP.

KELLY

Call me if he makes any movements. I'm on my way.

NICK

You got it.

KELLY

Thanks, Nick.

NICK

Anything for Jessica.

Kelly U-turn in the middle of the street.

SANCHEZ

Where's the fire?

KELLY

That was Nick. Our witness popped in for a party tonight.

SANCHEZ

Are you serious?

KELLY

If I know he's there, Josiah knows he's there as well.

SANCHEZ

I'll call it in.

Sanchez picks up the two-way radio.

SANCHEZ (CONT'D)

Central, this is car seven-six.

DISPATCHER (O.S.)

Copy, seven-six. What's your status?

SANCHEZ

We have a lead on Richard Jeffers. Requesting assistance at the Kingdom Gentlemen's club.

DISPATCHER (O.S.)

Copy that seven-six. A unit will be there shortly.

INT. JOSIAH'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Xavier walks into Josiah's office. Josiah sits in his chair and observes the view of the City. AJ lounges on the opposite side of the desk and reads a book.

JOSIAH

What?

XAVIER

Riley called.

AJ sits up, puts the book down, faces Xavier.

ΑJ

What did he say?

XAVIER

Your special invite arrived at the Kingdom 15 minutes ago.

ΑJ

I can't believe that stupid motherfucker really showed up.

AJ turns to Josiah.

AJ (CONT'D)

What do you want to do?

XAVIER

Do you want me to go pick it up?

JOSIAH

No, I want to join the party.

The chair moves from a reclined position to a forward vertical position. Josiah turns to face both men.

ΑJ

I don't think that's a good idea.

JOSIAH

Why not?

ΑJ

What if something goes wrong?

JOSIAH

(shrugs)

What if they do? You worry too much. Go bring the damn car around.

Xavier exits.

INT. THE KINGDOM - BAR - NIGHT

Sanchez and Kelly draw their firearms as they head for the VIP. Riley and the club's security greet them at the door.

RTLEY

Detectives, what can I do for you?

KELLY

Detectives? Are you picking sides?

RILEY

Maybe... Maybe not.

SANCHEZ

Give us our murder suspect.

RILEY

Suspect?

KELLY

What's with the security detail?

Riley motions toward their guns.

RILEY

You tell me. You walks in guns drawn like you're about to have a shoot out on the OK corral.

KELLY

Riley, I mean no disrespect. I came to pick up Rich.

Riley paces back and forth.

RILEY

Word is Rich isn't a "suspect". In fact, he was released because you didn't have anything on him.

KELLY

Step aside, Riley. Don't make his hard on yourself.

RILEY

I know you aren't in my club making idle threats.

KELLY

You know I don't make idle threats.

Rich appears behind Riley.

RICH

Oh, shit.

SANCHEZ

Mr. Jeffers, we need you to come with us please.

A loud GUN SHOT rocks the club. Patrons take cover under tables, behind pillars, or run to the nearest exit. Rich uses the distraction as a chance to escape.

Sanchez hides behind the nearest pillar. Kelly hides behinds the end of the bar.

KELLY

Freeze, Police!

Kelly fires back. Xavier fires back. Rich leaves through an emergency exit.

Xavier's men open fire across the room, as he exits through the front door.

SANCHEZ

Rich is escaping!

KELLY

Cover me.

Sanchez pops out from behind the pillar, opens fire on the assailants, then steps back behind the pillar. Kelly chases Rich through the emergency exit.

EXT. ALLEY - NIGHT

Kelly bursts out of the emergency exit.

KELLY

Freeze!

A GUN SHOT rings out. Kelly dashes to the ground. Xavier appears around the front of the building. Rich shoots at him. Xavier takes cover behind a dumpster.

Rich exits the alley. Kelly runs down the alley after him, hides behind the corner wall, peeks out. He spots Rich carjacking someone.

RICH

Get out!

Rich throws the man to the ground, jumps in the car, the TIRES screech as he peels off!

CARJACK VICTIM

Don't shot! Don't shot!

Kelly runs after the car, unloads a few SHOTS, stops.

KELLY

Dammit!

He turns back toward the alley. Xavier is gone too.

INT. JEFFERS RESIDENCE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Mable Jeffers opens the door and ushers Kelly in.

KELLY

Where is he?

Rich busts Kelly in the side of his head with the handle end of the pistol.

RICH

I'm right here, motherfucker.

Kelly staggers a few steps then turns and charges Rich. He grabs Rich around the waist and slams him to the floor. They know over an end table. Rich drops the gun, it slides away.

Kelly punches him in the face. Rich picks up a picture frame and smashes it across Kelly's head. Rich crawls over to the gun. He picks it up. The GUN cocks. Kelly raises his hands.

KELLY

Easy, I'm unarmed.

RICH

How do I know it's really you?

KELLY

Don't shoot.

He reaches into his coat pocket and retrieves his badge.

RICH

(scoffs)

Do you think I'm stupid?

He waves his gun in the air.

MS. JEFFERS

Rich, please!

RICH

Shut up, Momma.

MS. JEFFERS

He's here to help.

RICH

No, Momma. He's gonna kill me.

Rich shakes the gun at Kelly.

RICH (CONT'D)

I know it's you Josiah. Don't bull shit me man.

**KELLY** 

Look, man. I came to bring you in.

RICH

Prove it. Show me.

Kelly undoes his shirtsleeves. He reveals his right forearm. It's bare. He shows Rich the burn scare on his left arm.

KELLY

Put the gun down and come with me.

Rich lowers the gun and hands it to Kelly. Kelly places him in handcuffs.

KELLY (CONT'D)

It's going to be ok.

They exit.

INT. VICE BUREAU - INTERROGATION ROOM - DAY

Rich rocks back and forth in his chair. Agent Masters places his briefcase on the table and opens it.

RICH

What's going to happen to my Momma?

AGENT MASTERS

She'll be taken into custody with you as per our initial agreement.

RICH

So, I sign and you give me a new life.

AGENT MASTERS

In so many words, yes. We'll move you and your Mom to a safe location until it's time for you to testify.

Agent Masters hands him a paper and pen.

AGENT MASTERS (CONT'D)

We'll give a whole new identity and place to stay.

RICH

I have one request.

Rich grabs the pen and scratch his signature across the page. Agent Masters collects the paperwork and exits.

INT. VICE BUREAU - OBSERVATION ROOM - DAY

Captain Armstrong and Kelly watch Agent Masters and Rich through the two-way mirror.

CAPTAIN ARMSTRONG

How do you want to handle this?

KELLY

(shrugs)

I brought him in.

Agent Masters enters.

AGENT MASTERS

He's agreed to go into protection in exchange for his testimony.

CAPTAIN ARMSTRONG

Why don't you look happy? You got your man.

AGENT MASTERS

He has a stipulation.

Kelly turns away from the mirror.

KELLY

Which is?

AGENT MASTERS

He'll only go if you will handle the transport personally.

CAPTAIN ARMSTRONG

Are you cool with this?

KELLY

Do I have a choice?

INT. VICE BUREAU - HOLDING CELL - DAY

Kelly watches as DEA agents place shackles on Rich and prepare him for transport.

RICH

If I don't make it out of her, make sure my Momma knows I was trying to do the right thing.

Kelly nods grimly. The agents escort Rich out of the cell and down a long corridor. They exit the building to--

EXT. VICE BUREAU - FRONT STEPS - DAY

Kelly and Sanchez flank the DEA agents and Rich. As they walk down the stairs, a black SUV pulls up to the curb. The windows roll down.

SANCHEZ

Gun!

Four SHOTS ring out. Rich falls to the ground, dead. Officers open fire on the SUV. The ENGINE revs as it races away

INT. JOSIAH'S OFFICE - AFTERNOON

AJ and Xavier rise from the other side of Josiah's desk and exit. Josiah picks up the office phone and dials.

EXT. VICE BUREAU - PARKING LOT - AFTERNOON

Kelly's CELL PHONE RINGS. He picks up after the first ring.

Intercut phone conversation.

KELLY

What?

JOSIAH

Hey! What's with all the hostility?

Kelly takes cover near a car looks around. Josiah laughs.

JOSIAH (CONT'D)

Don't worry. I'm not coming for you. At least, not yet.

KELLY

What do you want?

JOSIAH

I'm going to watch you squirm before I crush you.

KELLY

Tell me how you really feel.

JOSIAH

You didn't have to kill her.

**KELLY** 

Are you upset I broke your toy?

Josiah grips the phone tight.

JOSIAH

Jessica wasn't a toy...

KELLY

She was collateral damage.

JOSIAH

She was carrying my legacy.

Kelly laughs, pulls out a mirror and looks under his car.

KELLY

You're getting soft, Josiah. What's wrong with you? So, what did Rich have on you?

JOSIAH

Nothing.

KELLY

I don't believe you.

JOSIAH

You don't have too. He laid hands on what belonged to me. You know I can't let that slide.

KELLY

Is that so? What happens now?

JOSIAH

Let the game begin. Watch yourself.

KELLY

You do the same.

Kelly hangs up the phone.

INT. JOSIAH'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Josiah looks across his desk. Sabrina enters.

SABRINA

Everything ok, Daddy?

FADE TO BLACK.